

ELECTRONIC ARTICLE SURVEILLANCE MARKER ASSEMBLY

5 **FIELD OF THE INVENTION**

This invention relates generally to security from shoplifting of articles of manufacture and pertains more particularly to electronic article surveillance marker assemblies for use with articles of manufacture.

10 **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

One form of electronic article surveillance (EAS) marker in widespread use is in the form of a flat, thin, flexible, rectangular member which is applied adhesively to flat or curved exterior surfaces of articles. One shortcoming of such exterior surface application is that, while often covered by a bar code label, the presence of the EAS marker nonetheless is evident since it is
15 visible from the sides of the bar code label. Still further, the EAS marker is accessible to a customer.

The EAS marker is a flat ferromagnetic strip member and is detectable by various known EAS systems, e.g., where the marker is not deactivated (as at an article payment checkout counter) and is carried through EAS marker detection gates at a facility exit.

20 **SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

A primary object of the invention is to provide EAS marker assemblies having enhanced

resistance to removal from objects to be thereby protected.

In attaining the foregoing and other objects, the invention provides an electronic article surveillance assembly comprising an upstanding housing having a closed ceiling and a floor having a continuous peripheral portion bounding a central floor opening, the housing having an interior
5 cavity communicating with the central floor opening, an EAS marker being disposed in the housing interior cavity, the housing defining a sidewall extending from the ceiling to the continuous peripheral floor portion and tapered to form the housing with a periphery having a V-shaped cross-section.

The invention further provides, in combination, an electronic article surveillance assembly
10 comprising an upstanding housing having a closed ceiling and a floor having a continuous peripheral portion bounding a central floor opening, the housing having an interior cavity communicating with the central floor opening, an EAS marker being disposed in the housing interior cavity, the housing defining a sidewall extending from the ceiling to the continuous peripheral floor portion and tapered to form the housing with a periphery having a V-shaped cross-
15 section and an article of manufacture, the continuous floor peripheral portion being secured to an exterior surface of the article of manufacture.

The invention will be further understood from consideration of the following description of preferred embodiments thereof and from the drawings where like reference numerals identify like parts throughout.

DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a top plan view of an EAS assembly in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the EAS assembly of Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the EAS assembly of Fig. 1 as would be seen from plane III-III of Fig. 1.

Fig. 4 is a sectional view of the EAS assembly of Fig. 1 as would be seen from plane IV-IV of Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 is a top plan view of a closure member for the EAS assembly of Fig. 1.

Fig. 6 is a top plan view of a second embodiment of an EAS assembly in accordance with the invention.

Fig. 7 is a bottom plan view of the EAS assembly of Fig. 6.

Fig. 8 is a sectional view of the EAS assembly of Fig. 6 as would be seen from plane VIII-VIII of Fig. 6.

Fig. 9 is a sectional view of a closure member for the EAS assembly of Fig. 6.

Fig. 10 is an enlarged, partial, sectional view of the EAS assembly of Fig. 6 with an article of manufacture.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Referring to Figs. 1-4, electronic article surveillance assembly 10 comprises upstanding housing 12 having closed ceiling 14 and floor 16 having a continuous peripheral portion 16a, bounding central floor opening 18.

Housing 12 has an interior cavity 20 communicating with central floor opening 18. EAS marker 22 is disposed in housing interior cavity 20.

Housing 12 defines sidewall 24 extending from ceiling 14 to continuous peripheral floor

portion 16a and tapered to form the housing with a periphery having a V-shaped cross-section, as is seen particularly in Figs. 3 and 4.

Bottom closure member 26 is secured to an interior surface of the floor continuous peripheral portion, as by an adhesive or heat sealing. An adhesive layer (not shown) is disposed on
5 the bottom closure member 26 and floor continuous peripheral portion 16a.

Turning to Figs. 6-9, electronic article surveillance assembly 28 comprises upstanding housing 30 having closed ceiling 32 of arcuate configuration and floor 34 having a continuous peripheral portion 34a, bounding central floor opening 36, and of common arcuate configuration with ceiling 32.

10 Housing 30 has an interior cavity 38 communicating with central floor opening 40. EAS marker 42 is disposed in housing interior cavity 38.

Housing 30 defines sidewall 44 extending from ceiling 32 to continuous peripheral floor portion 34a and tapered to form the housing with a periphery having a V-shaped cross-section, as is seen particularly in Fig. 8.

15 Bottom closure member 46, having arcuate undersurface 47, is secured to an interior surface of the floor continuous peripheral portion 34a as by an adhesive or heat sealing. An adhesive layer (not shown) is disposed on bottom closure member 46 and floor continuous peripheral portion 34a.

Turning to Fig. 10, it depicts an enlarged, partial, sectional view of EAS assembly 28 of Fig. 6 with article of manufacture 48, which may be a wine bottle or like body having exterior arcuate
20 surface 50. EAS assembly 28 has housing 30 with contained EAS marker 42 and its open floor closed by closure member 46. Adhesive 52 is disposed on the underside of closure member 46 and floor continuous peripheral portion 34a and secures assembly 28 to surface 50.

As will be appreciated, the continuous V-shaped exterior perimeter portion of assembly 28 provides a measure of resistance to prying the assembly from its attachment to surface 50.

Various changes may be introduced in the disclosed preferred embodiment without departing from the invention. By way of example, interior structure 28 effectively provides
5 sufficient spacing between EAS marker 14 and metallic bottom portion 40 so that the EAS marker is isolated from influence of the metal. Accordingly, it is to be appreciated that the true spirit and scope of the invention is set forth in the following claims.